Supplement No. 10.

GEO. MÉLIÈS

of Paris.

Cinematographic-Films, Life Moving Pictures, Comical, Magical, Mystical Views, Trick-Films, Actualities, etc.



New York Branch:

204 EAST 38th STREET, NEW YORK

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Length about, feet PRICE

517-519 Jack and Jim. (Comical and startling sleight-of-hand

performance)......188 \$32.00

Into a room filled with jugglers' properties of enormous size a prestidigitateur dressed in eccentric costume enters with his assistant. He proposes to execute some marvellous tricks. The servant believing that he would be comfortable in an armchair sits down in it but finds that it conceals a bucket of water into which he falls. The juggler brings a large empty cask and puts it upon a table, and filis it up with several pails of water. He leaps into the cask to take a bath, but he is bitten and hastily gets out. The water has disappeared, and in turning the cask upside down, some roosters and chickens come out of it very much alive. He stands the cask up again and shows with a pail that it is filled with water just as at first. Suddenly there comes out of the cask a pretty young girl whom the juggler places in a chair upon a table. When he has wrapped her up in a veil he aims at her an enormous pistol, fires it, and the flash resembles that of a large cannon. The veil falls, disclosing the assistant, and at the same time the young girl emerges from the cask on the other table. The juggler shuts the girl up in the cask and then tips it over and out of it emerge two suckling pigs, one of which is changed into a poodle just as he leaps into the juggler's arms. And again the juggler shows that the cask is full of water. He curls up upon it, doubles himself up, and disappears within only to reappear again through the floor whilst the assistant is emerging from the cask. Both now empty the water out of the cask into a bucket. Each one leaps into the latter and disappears, but suddenly comes upon the scene through the cask. They make their exit after a salute, but they once more come to view within the cask wrapped in one another's embrace in a most ridiculous attitude.



520-524 The Magic Lantern. (An amusing and picturesque

ballet with several captivating new tricks)

The scene represents the interior of a toyshop. Punchinello makes his entry dancing a characteristic step, and his friend Pierrot follows shortly after performing a step to the tune of "Au clair de la lune." The latter holds a candlestick and he shows his friend Punchinello that it gives no more light while quoting some words of the familiar song quite à propos. "You wish some light," says Punchinello. "I will give you some, and at the same time I will show you something most astonishing." He asks Pierrot to give him a lift. Then both bring a platform and construct section by section a huge magic lantern. Punchinello puts inside of it a large lamp, lights it, and opens the slide thereby, throwing upon the wall a large white dise within which pictures in varying subjects begin to appear. At first, a grand personage with his consort is shown, then follow two eccentric characters, and afterwards the pictures of Pierrot and Punchinello highly magnified. (These moving pictures dissolve one into the other upon a white background, — a new feat in cinematographic work.) Punchinello puts out the hight in the lantern and the views disappear, when suddenly the sections of the lantern fall apart and out of them come forth six English dancing girls who do a four-step after the style of the Barrison Sisters. And as they finish, a charming eccentrique makes her appearance and does a very pretty turn. The dancers retire. The magic lantern which had been shut up by Punchinello again opens and out of it emerges an entire corps de ballet from the Paris Opera House, and they all execute a dance together. The "première danseuse" comes on and mingles with the dancers; Punchinello and Pierrot become her suitors, they quarrel and soon engage in a hard fight, the sight of which causes the dancers to fie in terror. A body of policemen artive. Pierrot and Punchinello hide in the lantern. These policemen with eccentric manners examine it on every side. Suddenly the lantern opens, but Pierrot an

525-526 The Ballet-Master's Dream. (Eccentric dance by

Mile. Zizi Papillon)...

The stage-setting represents a bedroom. An Italian ballet-master, Signor Saltarello, undresses while his maid prepares the bed and wishes him a good-night. As he is absorbed in the study of a new step for a ballet which he is about to compose he makes several trials of steps and goes to bed dissatisfied at not having found the one desired. He falls askep while beating time and dreams. Two dancers appear in a vision and dance at first upon his bed, then upon the floor. These two dancers are merged into one who executes a very remarkable step in an eccentric dance. When she has finished her turn, she falls into the arms of the ballet-master who in his dream prepares to kiss her, but just as Saltarello presses his lips to hers she vanishes and the mother of the dancer appears in the place of the daughter. In his rage the ballet-master gives the old woman a sound thrashing upon his bed. He rolls to the floor while administering terrific folows and he awakes with a leap to find that he is drubbing his pillow and bolster. At the noise from the great commotion the maid returns to ask if her master has not become insane. The ballet-master recognizing that it was all a dream nearly bursts with laughter.